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Title: Need to revive the HMT units and implement wage revision of its employees.

SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK (MAHABUBABAD): There is a need to revive the HMT units not only in Andhra Pradesh but also all over the country especially at Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kalamassery, Pinjore, and Ajmer. HMT manufactures a wide range of Machine Tools. HMT has sold more than 1 Lakh Machines and created a vast customer base in the domestic and international markets. Due to liberalization, HMT's performance slided down considerably. Unfortunately the Government of India has not adequately taken care to nurture this premier PSU. Earlier, HMT unit, Hyderabad has fulfilled the railway (crankcase), defence (Arjun B T90 tanks), HAL (Radar Equipments), BARC and ISRO orders successfully.

The wage revision of the employees of HMT was implemented in 1992. The salaries of HMT are so low that it cannot be compared with similar PSU or a Private sector company. Under the prevailing situation, the employees are totally demoralized and frustrated. Further, this has severely affected the performance of the company. Skilled labour had left the company in search of better salary opportunities with other PSU's and Private competitors. The implementation of wage revision of employees of HMT has not been done when the same has been implemented in the case of employees of other sick PSUs.

The numbers of retirements are very high in HMT. Experienced professionals and skilled labour have left the company. The existing talent is required for some more years because the new recruits require to be trained at least for a period of 4 to 5 years. So, it is the need of the hour to enhance the retirement age from 58 to 60 years. Today the workforce is dwindled to barest minimum.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, through the Chair, to revive the glory of this prestigious HMT company by wage revision, enhancement of retirement age by merging with BHEL or with any PSU, particularly the HMT Unit in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh to safeguard the interests of the employees and their family members as they get less financial benefits under HMT now.